not furnish the required data/information, their liabilities would be assessed on the basis of whatever data becomes available from which ever source.

Liability in respect of Dexamethasone

5824. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry had failed to determine the liabilty of all the companies, other than M/s. Merind, in respect of Dexamethansone and its formulations;

(b) what are the products, mark up and prices thereof at the time of commecement of DPCO, 1979 and on what price of the bulk drug Dexamethasone were the prices of formulations based;

(c) when were the prices of bulk drug and formulations reduced for each producers under DPCO 1979 and why did they not apply for reduction in price of formulations when the bulk drug was reduced; and

(d) whether it is a fact that producers have been overcharging the consumer and why has the Ministry failed to calculate their liability?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) For the purpose of determining liability in respect of bulk drug Dexamethasone under Para 7(2) of DPCO, 1979 the notices were issued to companies manufacturing formulations based on this drug to submit data/information. The liability in respect of M|s. Wyeth Labs. has also been provisionally computed and notice has been sent to the company to deposit the amount into DPEA. The remaining companies have been asked to provide the requisite data/information so that the amounts of liability can be computed. failing which the liabilities will be computed and communicated to the companies on the basis of available information from what ever source.

Fertilizer Plants running in Deficit

5825. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the fertilizer plants are running in deficit;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what corrective measures Government have taken to check the deficit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Among the central public sector undertakings engaged in the manufacture of fertilizers, the following have been incurring losses:

(i) Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Ltd. (HFC)

(ii) Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI)

(iii) Pyrites, Phosphates & Chemicals Ltd. (PPCL).

(iv) Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL)

(b) The main reason for the losses suffered by HFC and FCI is low capacity utilisation due to design|equipment deficiencies frequent equipment break downs, prolonged power cuts, ageing of the plants, etc. The main reasons for the losses incurred by PPCL and PPL are reduction in offtake due to increase in the price of the phosphatic fertilizers following decontrol and higher cost of production vis-a-vis the price of imported DAI, PPL has also been burdened with heavy interest on Government loans.